29

DEF 12-5 LEB R

INCOMING TELEGRAM *Department of State*

YR DEF 12-5 ISR

85

CONFIDENTIAL

990

Beirut 1268

5-15-65

Action NEA

Info SS G SP SAH EUR P USIA NSC INR CIA NSA DOD DAC MC

RMR

RR RUEHCR
E RUQMBE 792B 15/1[illegible]9Z
R 15[illegible]29Z ZEA
FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
TO RUEHCR/SECSTATE WASHDC 1268
INFO ZEN/AMEMBASSY CAIRO 436
RUFHPA/AMEMBASSY PARIS 95
RUQMVL/AMEMBASSY TELAVIV 228
BT

0 0 4 7 6 7

1965 MAY 15 AM 7 54

C O N F I D E N T I A L MAY 15

FRENCH ARMS TO LEBANON AND ISRAEL

INDEPENDENT BEIRUT DAILY L'ORIENT MAY 15 REPORTS THAT PRESIDENT HELOU TOLD CABINET MAY 14 OF EXISTENCE AGREEMENT WITH FRANCE WHEREBY FRANCE TO FURNISH ARMS TO LEBANON, TYPES AND QUANTITIES NOT REVEALED. INDEPENDENT AN-NAHAR, ON OTHER HAND, REPORTS FONMIN TAKLA STATED ON SAME SUBJECT FRENCH-LEBANESE NEGOTIATIONS "SUCCESSFULLY" UNDERWAY.

BOTH PAPERS REPORT TAKLA ALSO INFORMED CABINET FRENCH FONMIN HAD FORMALLY DENIED RUMOR THAT FRENCH WERE PLANNING

PAGE TWO RUQMBE 792B C O N F I D E N T I A L
TO DELIVER GROUND-TO-GROUND MISSILES TO ISRAEL.

COMMENT: WHILE OFFICIAL LEBANESE CONFIRMATION LACKING RE FRENCH ARMS FOR LEBANON, EMBASSY INCLINED TO GIVE SOME CREDENCE TO L'ORIENT REPORT, IN VIEW USUAL RELIABILITY THIS PAPER ON SUCH MATTERS.

GP-3. MIDDLETON

(2)

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

REVIEWED BY: [illegible] DATE 2/1/84

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